



State Terrorism Threat Laws

All 50 states have laws prohibiting a threat of violence or a terroristic threat. See the following information compiled by the Republican Policy Committee regarding the law in each state.

Alabama	It is a crime to make a terroristic threat to commit violence, and is a Class C felony	https://law.justia.com/codes/alabama/2018/title-13a/chapter-10/article-1/section-13a-10-15/#:~:text=(a)%20A%20person%20commits%20the,Terrorizing%20another%20person.
Alaska	It is a class B felony to knowingly create or cause a threat. It is a class C felony to cause a threat in reckless disregard of the results that threat can cause.	https://codes.findlaw.com/ak/title-11-criminal-law/ak-st-sect-11-56-810.html
Arizona	If a person threatens another person with death, serious bodily harm, or threaten substantial property damage, it is classified as a Class D felony. If a person threatens another person with harm, or property damage it is a Class A misdemeanor.	https://codes.findlaw.com/ar/title-5-criminal-offenses/ar-code-sect-5-13-301.html
Arkansas	It is a class 3 felony offense to make a terrorist threat, or to falsely report a terrorist threat. The person is responsible for any debt incurred by the investigation into any threat or threat report.	https://www.azleg.gov/ars/13/02308-02.htm
California	Any threat, regardless of intent, or ability to actually commit what is being threatened is considered to be either a misdemeanor or a felony (determined by the severity of the threat) and is punishable with up to a year in the county jail, or time in the state penitentiary.	https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=422.&lawCode=PEN

Colorado	In Colorado, making a threat is classified as "menacing" and is defined as any attempt or threat to place another person in a state of fear of imminent bodily harm. It is at least a class 3 misdemeanor, and if committed with a weapon, is at most a class 5 felony.	https://law.justia.com/codes/colorado/2017/title-18/article-3/part-2/section-18-3-206/
Connecticut	Threatening is a class A misdemeanor punishable by up to one year in prison.	https://www.cga.ct.gov/2001/rpt/2001-R-0790.htm
Delaware	A person is guilty of terroristic threatening when that person threatens to commit any crime likely to result in death or serious injury to person or property. It is class G felony or class A misdemeanor punishable by up to two years.	https://delcode.delaware.gov/title11/c005/sc02/
Florida	It is second degree felony to make written or electronic threat to kill, do bodily injury, or conduce mass shotting or an act of terrorism, punishable by up to 15 years	http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0800-0899/0836/Sections/0836.10.html
Georgia	It is felony to make terroristic threat to commit violence, release a hazardous substance or damage property. It is punishable from 5-20 years and a fine up to \$50k.	https://www.georgiacriminallawyer.com/terroristic-threats#:~:text=Georgia%20Law%20on%20Terroristic%20Threats&text=%C2%A716%2D11%2D37(.Burn%20or%20damage%20property.
Hawaii	A person commits the offense of terroristic threatening if the person threatens, by word or conduct, to cause bodily injury to another person or serious damage or harm to property, including the pets or livestock, of another or to commit a felony. It is class C felony with up to 5 years.	https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/vol14_ch070/1-0853/HRS0707/HRS_0707-0715.htm
Idaho	It is felony to conspire with one or more persons to injure, oppress, threaten or intimidate any citizen in the free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured to him by the constitutions or laws of the United States or the state of Idaho, by the use of violence against the person or property of such citizen. It is punishable by up to 10 years and a fine up to \$50k.	https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/title18/t18ch81/sect18-8103/
Illinois	A person is guilty of making a terrorist threat when, with the intent to intimidate or coerce a significant portion of a civilian population, he or she in any manner knowingly threatens to commit or threatens to cause the commission of a terrorist act. It is class X felony, punishable by 6-30 years in state prison.	https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/fulltext.asp?DocName=072000050K29D-20 and https://www.criminallawyerillinois.com/2021/05/03/what-is-a-class-x-felony-in-illinois/#:~:text=The%20Class%20X%20felony%20is,in%20the%20Department%20of%20Corrections.

Indiana	It is a felony of severity level 9 to threaten violence with intent to terrorize, punishable by 5-17 months in state prison	https://law.justia.com/codes/kansas/2009/chapter21/statutes_11781.html and https://www.criminaldefenselawyer.com/resources/criminal-defense/felony-offense/kansas-felony-class.htm
Iowa	It is a Class D felony to threaten to commit act of terrorism or cause reasonable expectation of fear of the imminent commission of such act	https://casetext.com/statute/code-of-iowa/title-xvi-criminal-law-and-procedure/subtitle-1-crime-control-and-criminal-acts/chapter-708a-terrorism/section-708a5-threat-of-terrorism
Kansas	Threat is defined as any action to threaten violence against a person, group, or place, or cause evacuation of a place. Criminal threat is a severity level 9, person felony and aggravated criminal threat (with a weapon) is a severity level 5, person felony.	https://www.ksrevisor.org/statutes/chapters/ch21/021_054_0015.html
Kentucky	It is crime to make a terroristic threat. There are three levels to address severity of threat: first degree- class C felony for threatening school or making false statement about a weapon of mass destruction is punishable by 5-10 years and fine \$1k-\$10k.	https://www.kentuckycriminaldefenseattorney.com/ky-criminal-defense-attorneys/terroristic-threatening/
Louisiana	It is a crime to make a terrorist threat and is punishable with up to no more than a \$15,000 penalty, and no more than 15 years in prison (can be assigned hard labor or not), or both fine and prison time.	https://law.justia.com/codes/louisiana/2017/code-revisedstatutes/title-14/rs-14-40.1/
Maine	If a person communicates a threat to commit violence to human life or causes an evacuation of a building, they have committed a Class C or D crime depending on whom the threat was directed toward.	https://legislature.maine.gov/statutes/17-A/title17-Asec210.html
Maryland	Threat of mass violence is a misdemeanor, with penalty up to 10 years in prison and fines up to \$10,000.	https://www.graciamintz.com/blog/2020/october/what-is-a-terroristic-threat-in-maryland/
Massachusetts	The threat of intent to injure another person is punishable with up to \$100 fine and 6 months in prison.	https://www.neymanlaw.com/massachusetts-g-l-c-275-2-threat-to-commit-a-crime.html
Michigan	A person who threatens to commit an act of terrorism or make a false report about act of terrorism is subject to up to 20 years in prison and fine of up to \$20,000.	http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(iekssc0kc513i4ayumboa40x))/mileg.aspx?page=GetObject&objectname=mcl-750-543m

Minnesota	Whoever threatens, directly or indirectly, to commit any crime of violence with purpose to terrorize may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than five years or to payment of a fine of not more than \$10,000, or both.	https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2013/cite/609.713
Mississippi	Threat of bodily harm is a crime resulting in up to 10 years in state prison.	https://casetext.com/statute/mississippi-code-1972/title-97-crimes/chapter-7-crimes-against-sovereignty-or-administration-of-government/section-97-7-75-mississippi-terroristic-threats-law-offense-of-making-a-terroristic-threat-requisite-intent-defense-punishment
Missouri	Violent threat to 10 or more people OR threats resulting in evacuation/closure/quarantine is a Class D felony.	https://revisor.mo.gov/main/OneSection.aspx?section=574.115
Montana	Threat of any violence or any felony is a crime resulting in up to 10 years in prison or \$50,000 fine.	https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2019/BillHtml/SB0136.htm
Nebraska	Any threat of harm is a IIIA felony punishable up to 3 years in state prison or \$10,000 fine.	https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=28-311.01
Nevada	Any spoken intent to commit harm, civil unrest, or panic is a category B felony punishable up to 20 years in state prison or \$5,000 fine.	https://www.shouselaw.com/nv/defense/nrs/202-448-terrorist-threats/
New Hampshire	Criminal threatening (includes any threat of violence or panic causing) is class B felony punishable up to 7 years state prison.	https://law.justia.com/codes/new-hampshire/2015/title-lxii/chapter-631/section-631-4
New Jersey	Threats of violence or causing an evacuation is second degree, and threat of death is third degree punishable up to 5 years in state prison or \$15,000.	https://criminallawyerinnj.com/terroristic-threats-nj-charges/
New Mexico	Any threat of violence, kidnapping, or exposure of a secret/disgrace is a third-degree felony punishable up to 3 years in state prison or \$5,000 fine.	https://law.justia.com/codes/new-mexico/2018/chapter-30/article-16/section-30-16-9/
New York	Any threat meant to intimidate or coerce is a class D felony punishable up to 7 years in state prison.	https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/PEN/490.20

North Carolina	Any threat of violence or exertion of influence meant to intimidate or persuade the victim to commit a crime is Class A or B1 felony. (maximum death penalty or life without parole. May have their possessions seized and forfeited)	https://www.ncleg.gov/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/PDF/ByArticle/Chapter_14/Article_3A.pdf
North Dakota	Any intimidation, unlawful influence, or interruption of public service is a Class 5 felony punishable up to 5 years in state prison or \$10,000 fine.	https://sdlegislature.gov/Statutes/Codified_Laws/2046996
Ohio	If any threat results in a reasonable expectation of fear of the imminent commission is a third-degree felony punishable up to 3 years in state prison.	https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-2909.23
Oklahoma	Threatening a violent act is a misdemeanor punishable up to 6 months in state prison. A "terroristic hoax" is a felony with up to 10 years in prison.	https://www.edgecriminaldefense.com/threateningorattemptinganactofviolenceinoklahoma
Oregon	Intentionally causing fear by threat of serious injury or death is up to 5 years in state prison or \$125,000 or both.	https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2019R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB673/Introduced#:~:text=(1)%20A%20person%20commits%20the,%3B%20(b)%20The%20person%20expresses
Pennsylvania	It is a crime to make a terrorist threat. The person's sentence must include restitution equal to the cost of the evacuation caused.	https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/LI/consCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&ttl=18&div=0&chpt=27&sctn=6&subscn=0
Rhode Island	Any person who threatens the use of a weapon of mass destruction, with the specific intent that the statement, made verbally, in writing, or by means of electronic communication device, is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no attempt of actually carrying it out is a felony punishable by up to 20 years in state prison or \$1,000,000 fine.	https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/BillText02/SenateText02/S2639.pdf
South Carolina	Threat to damage, injure, destroy, or kill a living thing or property is a felony punishable up to 15 years in state prison.	https://law.justia.com/codes/south-carolina/2012/title-16/chapter-23/section-16-23-720
South Dakota	Any threat to commit a crime or act in a way that is dangerous to human life with intent to intimidate, influence, or interrupt is a Class 5 felony punishable up to 5 years in prison and \$10,000 fine.	https://sdlegislature.gov/Statutes/Codified_Laws/2046996

Tennessee	Threatening any act of hazard or chaos ranges from Class B-E felonies punishable up to 30 years in state prison.	https://www.capitol.tn.gov/Bills/106/Bill/SB0069.pdf
Texas	Any threat to person or property which places danger or results in reasonable fear is a maximum class A misdemeanor punishable 1 year in state prison.	https://codes.findlaw.com/tx/penal-code/penal-sect-22-07.html
Utah	An actor commits a threat of terrorism if the actor threatens to commit an offense involving bodily injury, death, or substantial property damage. The threat is a second-degree felony punishable up to 15 years in state prison or \$10,000.	https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title76/Chapter5/76-5-S107.3.html
Vermont	Threatening of mass destruction, mass killing, or mass kidnapping is considered Domestic Terrorism punishable up to 20 years state prison or \$50,000.	https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/13/039/01703
Virginia	Threatening injury or revealing/withholding reputationally damaging property or information is a Class 5 felony punishable up to 10 years in state prison.	https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacodefull/title18.2/chapter4/article6/
Washington	Threatening a violent crime or causing mass public chaos punishable by fine up to the cost of missed business time and emergency responders in addition to 1 year in state prison and a \$5,000 fine.	https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/LI/consCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&ttl=18&div=0&chpt=27&sctn=6&subctn=0
West Virginia	Any person who knowingly and willfully threatens to commit a terrorist act, with or without the intent to commit the act, is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than \$5,000 nor more than \$25,000 or confined in a state prison for not less than one year nor more than three years, or both.	http://www.wvlegislature.gov/wvcode/chapterentire.cfm?chap=61&art=6&section=24
Wisconsin	Creating unreasonable risk, threatening harm to people or property, causing panic, or threatening to enter a school or home is a Class I felony punishable up to 3.5 years in state prison and \$10,000 fine.	https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/947/013
Wyoming	Threatening to commit any felony or causing evacuation or serious public inconvenience is a felony punishable up to 3 years in prison.	https://law.justia.com/codes/wyoming/2014/title-6/chapter-2/article-5/section-6-2-505